

# PAPERS READ

BEFORE THE

## LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 8, 1909.

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"History herself, as seen in her own workshop."

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MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING.  
IN MEMORIAM  
OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1909  
SECRETARY'S REPORT  
LIBRARIAN'S REPORT  
TREASURER'S REPORT

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VOL. XIII. NO. 1.

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LANCASTER, PA.  
REPRINTED FROM THE NEW ERA.  
1909.



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## Minutes of January Meeting.

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Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 8, 1909.

The annual meeting of the Lancaster County Historical Society was held this (Friday) evening, in the society's rooms, in the Smith Free Library building. With the election of officers and the presentation of reports, the session was a busy one. President Steinman presided, and there was a very good attendance of the members.

The reports of the officers showed progress in the work the organization has undertaken, and they contained much matter of interest not only to the members, but to the public.

Secretary Hostetter's report stated that seventeen new members were elected during the year and there were six deaths, making the present membership 216. Eighteen papers were prepared and read before the organization, adding much valuable matter to the society's already large fund of historic material. Some of the publications are becoming quite rare, and as an indication of their value the report stated that frequent inquiries come from libraries in other States and from sister societies which are endeavoring to secure complete sets of the society's pamphlets.

Librarian Sener's annual report showed that the acquisitions to the society's museum during 1908 numbered 907 articles, which included 285 volumes presented by the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, through

its Secretary, F. R. Diffenderffer; a complete file of the New Holland Clarion, from George H. Ranck, and forty-two volumes and many pamphlets from the estate of the late Samuel Evans, Esq., of Columbia. The report touched upon the recent convention of the State Federation of Historical Societies at Harrisburg, which honored a number of members of the local organization as officers and members of various committees. The Federation was offered and accepted a bibliography of Lancaster county containing over 1,500 titles, which had been prepared by Librarian Sener.

In connection with his report, the Librarian presented brief sketches of the six members who have passed away during the year, Hon. Milton Heidelbaugh, Rev. Dr. James Y. Mitchell, John H. Fry, Esq., Samuel Evans, Esq., Philip A. Metzgar and Thomas B. Cochran.

The donations to the library and museum during the month of December consisted of a package of local programmes, society reports and Sunday-school papers from Dr. R. K. Buehrle; volume XVI., of the Senate Journal of the session of 1805, State of Pennsylvania, from William B. Altick; commission of Henry A. Hambricht, of Lancaster, as a Second Lieutenant in the Civil War, signed by Abraham Lincoln, from Mr. W. F. Hambricht; Revolutionary grape shot made at Elizabeth Furnace, from F. E. Schnerer.

Dr. J. W. Houston, in his report as treasurer, stated that the receipts for the year were \$491 and the expenditures \$461.55; leaving a balance of \$29.45. Included in the receipts was the annual appropriation of \$200 from the County Commissioners. The So-



ciety also has on interest \$150, accumulated from a bequest of \$100 from Miss Mary Ross. A financial report was also presented by Secretary Hostetter, and it was audited and found correct.

Election of officers was next in order, and the secretary cast the ballot for the following: President, Geo. Steinman; Vice Presidents, F. R. Diffenderffer and Dr. Joseph H. Dubbs; Secretary, Charles B. Hollinger; Treasurer, Dr. J. W. Houston; Librarian, Samuel M. Sener, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Martha B. Clark; Executive Committee, A. K. Hostetter, Richard M. Reilly, Esq., W. U. Hensel, Esq., George F. K. Erisman, D. B. Landis, H. Frank Eshleman, Esq., Mrs. Sarah B. Carpenter, Monroe B. Hirsh, Chas. T. Steigerwalt and Miss Lottie M. Bausman.

President Steinman appointed H. Frank Eshleman, Esq., Dr. R. K. Buehrle and A. K. Hostetter, a committee to audit the accounts of the treasurer and present their report at the next meeting.

Mrs. Maud D. Hager, of Marietta, was elected to membership, and the applications of William E. Miller, of this city, and B. Ezra Herr, of West Lampeter, were received. They will be elected at the next meeting.

On motion orders were drawn for rental, janitor service and for the librarian and secretary, to be dispensed during the year.

The sub-committee of the Executive Committee, to which had been referred the preparation of an index of all the articles read before the Society since its organization, presented its report, with the index. It has been carefully prepared and will

prove of great value. It shows that over 200 papers have been printed in the pamphlets in the twelve volumes.

After a discussion of a proposition to make an investigation of old documents in the basement of the Court House the meeting adjourned.

## In Memoriam.

During the year 1908 six members of this Society passed to rest. Following will be found brief sketches of them.

S. M. S.

### HON. MILTON HEIDELBAUGH.

Milton Heidelbaugh, state senator of the Thirteenth District, and a well-known resident of Lancaster County, died at his home on North Duke Street, this city, on February 10, 1908. He was a son of John Heidelbaugh, and was born in Bart Township, on April 19, 1843. Received a public school education. During the Civil War was a member of Company C of the Fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under the late Colonel Emlen Franklin. He was elected to the Legislature in 1885, 1893, 1895, 1897, 1899. In 1901 he was elected to the State Senate and re-elected in 1905. He was married on January 3, 1869, to Miss Harriet E. Thompson, who with four children survives. He was a member of Octorara Presbyterian Church and a past master of Lodge 417 of Masons, a Knight Templar and a Shriner. He was also an Elk and was a Republican in politics.

S. M. S.

### JAMES Y. MITCHELL, D.D.

Rev. James Y. Mitchell, D.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, this city, died on February 26, 1908. He was born in Philadelphia in 1832, his parents having come from County Derry, Ireland, in 1828. He studied for the ministry in Princeton Theological Seminary and was licensed by the Presbytery of Philadelphia to preach, locating at Phillipsburg, N. Y., and being ordained July 14, 1857. From there he came to a Philadelphia church, and came to Lancaster in July, 1876. He was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, this city, from then until his death. He was married to Miss Henrietta Michler, of Easton, and was the father of seven children.

S. M. S.

### JOHN H. FRY.

John H. Fry, a member of the Lancaster Bar, died on April 21, 1908. He was born fifty-five years ago at Frysville, Ephrata Township, having been a son of the late John Fry. He graduated from Franklin and Marshall College. He entered the office of the late Hon. A. Herr Smith

as a law student and was admitted to practice in 1877. He was a Republican in politics.

S. M. S.

#### **SAMUEL EVANS.**

Samuel Evans, Esq., died at his home in Columbia, on April 22, 1908. An exhaustive sketch and minute of respect to Mr. Evans, accompanied by an excellent portrait, will be found in Volume XII., No. 6, pp. 233, papers of the Lancaster County Historical Society.

S. M. S.

#### **PHILIP A. METZGER.**

Philip A. Metzger died at his home on North Lime Street, this city, on July 3, 1908. He was a descendant of Philip Metzger, who came from the Palatinate and located in Lancaster in 1749. He was the fourth Philip in direct line of descent. He was born in this city on November 27, 1839, and was educated in the public schools. He entered the dry goods store of R. E. Fahnestock and remained with him twenty-six years, when he began business for himself on West King Street. Mr. Metzger was married in 1866 to Miss M. Elizabeth Weaver, a daughter of the late George A. Weaver. He was survived by his wife and two daughters, M. Gertrude and Carrie L., wife of C. E. Long. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. He was a Democrat in politics. For several years Mr. Metzger was a member of the Executive Committee of this Society.

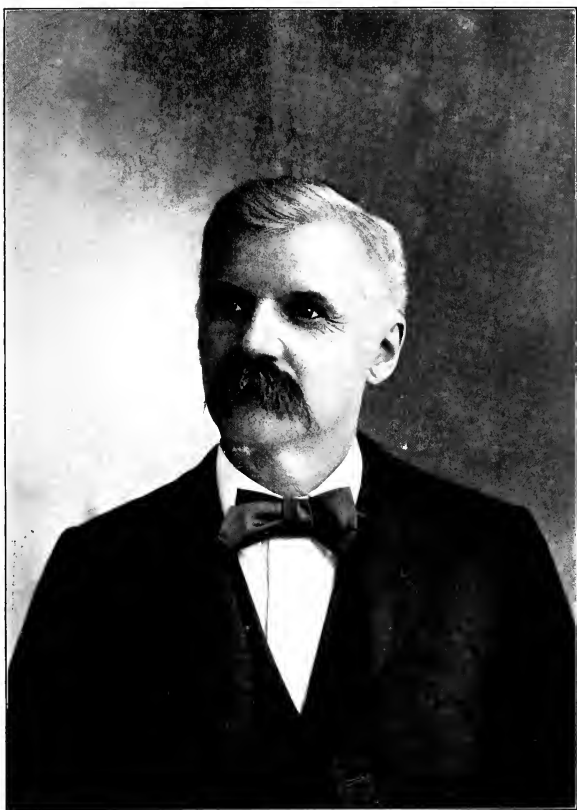
S. M. S.

#### **THOMAS B. COCHRAN.**

Thomas B. Cochran, a member of the Lancaster Bar, died at his home on North Lime Street, this city, on November 9, 1908. He was born in York, Pa., on August 21, 1845, and came to this city with his parents in 1853, educated in the public schools and graduated in 1861, when he became an apprentice in the office of the "Lancaster Union." During the Legislative session of 1864 he became a reporter for the "Legislative Record" and in 1871 became journal clerk in the Senate, and remained such until in 1877, when he was elected Senate clerk. He had been a member of the Lancaster City Councils and the Lancaster City School Board. He read law with Hon. John B. Livingston and was admitted to practice in 1873. For a number of years he was one of the proprietors of the "Lancaster Examiner." He was married to Miss Anna M. Pearsoll. He is survived by his wife and two children.

S. M. S.

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PHILIP A. METZGER.



OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR 1909.

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**President,**

GEORGE STEINMAN.

**Vice-Presidents,**

F. R. DIFFENDERFFER, Litt.D.

JOSEPH H. DUBBS, D.D.

**Secretary,**

CHARLES B. HOLLINGER.

**Corresponding Secretary,**

MISS MARTHA B. CLARK.

**Treasurer,**

DR. J. W. HOUSTON.

**Librarian,**

SAMUEL M. SENER, Esq.

**Executive Committee,**

A. K. HOSTETTER,  
RICHARD M. REILY, Esq.,  
W. U. HENSEL, Esq.,  
GEORGE F. K. ERISMAN,  
D. B. LANDIS,

H. FRANK ESHLEMAN, Esq.,  
MRS. SARAH B. CARPENTER,  
MONROE B. HIRSH,  
CHARLES T. STEIGERWALT,  
MISS LOTTIE M. BAUSMAN.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT.

LANCASTER, January 8, 1909.

*To the Officers and Members of the Lancaster County Historical Society:* The constitution of this Society requires the Secretary to make an annual report to the Society, and in harmony with that edict, I beg to submit the following summary of the Society's proceedings since our last annual meeting. At that time our membership numbered 206, of whom six have since died and one has resigned. We have added seventeen new names to our list, thus making our present membership 216, or an increase for the year of nine members.

Ten monthly meetings have been held during the year, the July and August meetings having been omitted in accordance with our usual custom. At these meetings eighteen papers were read and discussed, all of which were published in the pamphlets of Volume 12. The publications of our Society represent a great amount of labor and research, and the historic matter that is preserved in them is very valuable, not only to ourselves, but will probably be much more so to our succeeding generations. Some of our publications are becoming quite rare and are much sought after. There is perhaps no better indication of their value than to know that we frequently have inquiries from libraries and sister societies which are endeavoring to procure complete sets of our publications.

Lancaster County abounds with so much traditional and historical interest that as a community we are apt to value but lightly the abundance which has come to us so easily. Had we but a "Seventh Day Baptist" community at Ephrata, a Moravian settlement at Lititz, or a Witmer's bridge across the Conestoga, I am inclined to think we would know them much better and show for them a much greater appreciation than we now do.

We do not have *too* much, but perhaps so much that we have become neglectful or indifferent in our researches.

Our present comfortable quarters and the interesting meetings we hold have drawn a liberal attendance, however not as much so as we would like to see, especially when we consider the small number of gentlemen who attend. What can we do to remedy this matter? Referring to the annual meeting of the State Federation of Historical Societies held at Harrisburg on the seventh instant, I will simply state that our librarian, Mr. Sener, has prepared a report of it, which will be submitted to you later.

Congratulating the society upon its successful career and hoping for a continuance of the same, I remain,

Very respectfully,

A. K. HOSTETTER,

*Secretary.*



## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

LANCASTER, January 8, 1909.

*To the Officers and Members of the Lancaster County Historical Society:* Your Librarian would respectfully report that during the year 1908 the acquisitions to the Society's museum and library numbered 907 articles, as follows:

Bound volumes donated .....	416
Bound volumes purchased .....	22
Pamphlets and catalogues .....	311
Maps, curious, etc.....	10
Photographs and local postal views .....	29
Old newspapers .....	59
Bound files of newspapers .....	30
Manuscripts and letters .....	30
Total .....	907

During the year there were twenty-one completed files of magazines, etc., which had been received as exchanges, bound, and your Librarian had to vacate the rear room occupied by the Society on the third floor in order to accommodate the Librarian of the Free Public Library.

Our rooms have been visited during the year by a number of out-of-town parties in search of data.

Among the prominent donors during the year were D. M. Swarr, D. B. Landis, T. Warren Metzger, A. J. Auxer, Mrs. S. P. Sentman, Miss E. E. Wright (Philadelphia), Miss Mary W. Russell, Rev. Dr. S. F. Hotchkin (Philadelphia), John B. Stoudt, F. X. Reuss (Philadelphia), W. U. Hensel, S. M. Sener, A. C. Bruner, F. H. Calder, W. T. Brown, George Hergenrother, Harold F. Diffenderffer, F. R. Diffenderffer, Mrs. George A. Wallace, Mrs. L. B. Ehler, F. S. Schnerer, Dr. Buehrle, George H. Ranck and Samuel Evans's estate. By far the largest donation came from the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, through its secretary, F. R. Diffenderffer, in the shape of a case containing 285 volumes and a large number of pamphlets, the Agricultural Society having disbanded.

Mr. George H. Ranck donated to us a complete file of the New Holland "Clarion" from 1873 to 1903, thirty bound volumes in all.

From the estate of the late Samuel Evans were received forty-two volumes and fourteen pamphlets.

From F. X. Reuss, of Philadelphia, a large number of pamphlets, a

scrap-book of Columbia and a tin box containing the records of the cholera epidemic in Columbia in 1854.

We have thirty exchanges and the most prominent donations received from any of them were from the State Library at Harrisburg, the State Library at Albany and the American Philosophical Society.

Your Librarian, along with the other appointed delegates, attended the meeting in Harrisburg, on January 7, of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies, and would state that the meeting was an enthusiastic one. Your Librarian, who has been compiling a county bibliography for over four years and has about fifteen hundred titles on the same, offered the same to the Federation for publication and the offer was accepted. The following gentlemen of our Society have been honored by the Federation by election or appointment: F. R. Diffenderffer, Litt.D., second vice-president; Samuel M. Sener, Esq., member of the executive committee (term of office expiring January, 1911); Rev. Dr. Jos. H. Dubbs, on committee on bibliography; F. R. Diffenderffer, on committee on historical activity; George Steinman, on committee on preservation of manuscript records of counties; Samuel M. Sener, chairman of committee on marking of sites of frontier forts and member of committee on State legislation. There are at present thirty-two societies in the Federation.

Your Librarian begs to extend thanks to members and others for various acts of courtesy extended to him during the year. All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. M. SENER,  
*Librarian.*

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

LANCASTER, January 8, 1909.

*To the Officers and Members of the Lancaster County Historical Society:* I, J. W. Houston, Treasurer of said Society, have the honor to make the following report for the year 1908:

### RECEIPTS.

Cash received from year 1907.....	\$ 29.48
Cash received for dues year 1908.....	261.52
Cash from Lancaster Co. Commissioners, 1908	200.00
Total receipts .....	\$491.00

### EXPENDITURES.

Total expenditures of Society for year 1908..	\$461.55
Balance due Society .....	\$ 29.45

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. HOUSTON,  
*Treasurer.*





